

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00  
SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02  
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O R 031445Z APR 78  
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AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION USNATO  
USNMR SHAPE  
USDOCOSOUTH  
USCINCEUR  
CINCUSAFE

UNCLAS ATHENS 2728

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PEPR, US, GR, TU  
SUBJECT: FURTHER REACTION TO REPORTS THAT TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO  
TO BE LIFTED

REF: ATHENS 2703

1. CYPRIOT FOREIGN MINISTER ROLANDIS' APRIL 2 PRESS CONFERENCE,  
DURING WHICH HE REVEALED THE ESSENCE OF WHAT HE SAID  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BARBOUR HAD INFORMED CYPRIOT  
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AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU CONCERNING DEVELOPMENTS IN U.S.-  
TURKISH RELATIONS; THE STATEMENTS BY ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER  
AVEROFF AND OPPOSITION LEADERS PAPANDREOU AND MAVROS (REFTEL)  
AND NEWLY-DECLARED INDEPENDENT DEPUTY PESMAZOGLOU; AND RELATED  
REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON AND NICOSIA WERE THE BASIS FOR MOST OF  
THE HIGHLY CRITICAL AFTERNOON GREEK PRESS REPORTING APRIL 3 ABOUT THE  
ISSUE OF THE LIFTING OF THE U.S. ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY.

MOST OF THE REPORTING CARRIED IN SOME DETAIL WHAT WERE SAID TO BE THE AMOUNTS OF THE PROPOSED U.S. MILITARY AID TO TURKEY FOR FY 1979. SEVERAL REPORTS ALSO MENTIONED THAT AID TO GREECE WOULD RISE NEXT YEAR TO ABOUT \$140 MILLION.

2. PRO-GOVERNMENT VRADYNI BANNERED "THE END OF THE EMBARGO" AND UNDERLINED IN ITS LEAD PARAGRAPH THAT BY LIFTING THE EMBARGO THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WOULD ACCOMPLISH WHAT PRESIDENT FORD AND HERNY KISSINGER HAD NOT DARED TO DO. THE NEWSPAPER ALSO COMMENTED THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WAS GOING AHEAD WITH THIS ACTION WITHOUT OBTAINING ANY COMMITMENT FROM THE TURKS TO MAKE PROPOSALS ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION. PRO-GOVERNMENT APOYEVMATINI'S ACCOUNT FROM NICOSIA, HEADLINED "NICOSIA IS STUDYING MEASURES AGAINST THE USA FOLLOWING THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO," CLAIMED THAT CYPRIOT PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU WAS VERY ANGRY AT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION OVER ITS INTENTION TO LIFT THE EMBARGO. THE STORY SAID KYPRIANOU WAS CONSIDERING WHAT RETALIATORY MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST THE U.S. MENTIONING THE POSSIBLE CANCELLATION OF AGREEMENTS ALLOWING U.S. RADIO STATIONS TO OPERATE IN CYPRUS. APOYEVMATINI ALSO REPORTED THAT, IN THE ABSENCE OF PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PAPACONSTANTINOU WOULD CON VENE THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE (THE SO-CALLED INNER CABINET) TO CONSIDER THE NEW SITUATION.

3. OPPOSITION, LEFTIST TA NEA'S HEADLINES READ "DRAMATIC TURN UNCLASSIFIED

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IN FAVOR OF TURKEY - CARTER LIFTS THE EMBARGO TODAY (SIC) AND GIVES GREATER AID." WRITING THAT TURKEY WOULD GAIN IN EXCESS OF \$290 MILLION OF U.S. MILITARY AID IN THE COMING YEAR, TA NEA COMPLAINED BITTERLY THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WAS DISCONNECTING THE EMBARGO FROM THE CYPRUS QUESTION. IT ALSO STRESSED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION'S AID PROPOSALS FOR TURKEY WERE DESIGNED TO REDUCE CONGRESSIONAL INFLUENCE OVER THE AID FURNISHED TO TURKEY IN FUTURE YEARS. LEFTIST, OFTEN ANTI-U.S. ELEFTHEROTYPIA PROCLAIMED "STORM OVER THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO - 'STABBED IN THE BACK BY CARTER'." IT GAVE HEAVY EMPHASIS TO THE REACTION IN NICOSIA AND BY THE GREEK OPPOSITION LEADERS, COMPARING THE "VEHEMENT" OPPOSITION CRITICISM TO THE MORE "DISCREET" REACTION BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT. ELEFTHEROTYPIA CLAIMED THAT THE U.S. ACTION DIRECTLY THREATENS THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF GREECE AND WILL LEAD TO A GREEK-TURKISH CONFLICT. IT ALSO COMMENTED NEGATIVELY THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WAS PROCEEDING WITH THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WITHOUT OBTAINING ANY CONCESSIONS FROM THE TURKS.

4. ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE ESTIA COMMENTED THAT THE PLANS TO LIFT THE EMBARGO HAD BEEN UNDERWAY FOR SOME TIME. IT NOTED THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSALS WOULD ENCOUNTER STRONG OPPOSITION IN THE CONGRESS, AND THAT TO HELP OVERCOME THIS OPPOSITION THE

DCA WITH TURKEY WITH ITS MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENT WOULD BE WITHDRAWN.  
ESTIA ALSO WROTE THAT ECEVIT MAY SUBMIT PROPOSALS ON CYPRUS IN A  
COORDINATED EFFORT TO STAGE-MANAGE THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO  
AND FACILITATE CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

5. THE GOVERNMENT-OPEATED RADIO AND TV BROADCASTS, ON WHICH  
MOST GREEKS RELY FOR THEIR NEWS, SO FAR HAVE NOT MADE ANY  
MENTION OF THE EMBARGO STORY OR RELATED DEVELOPMENTS.  
MCCLOSKEY

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, ARMS EMBARGO, PRESS CONFERENCES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
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